

I want to go into these quotes more later because I personally think this is Wag the Dog.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BRADY of Texas). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. CUMMINGS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.

#### DEMOCRATS NEED TO GROW UP AND HELP REPUBLICANS SOLVE NATION'S PROBLEMS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SALMON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SALMON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to say it is wonderful to be here today, but I like most of you on both sides of the aisle would much rather be home attending church with my family, but we cannot be there because we have got work to do. I am not going to stand here and say that this Congress has accomplished everything that I wanted it to accomplish. In fact there are a lot of things that it could have and should have done that it did not. But as far as the rhetoric is concerned, when I listened to some of the folks, especially those on the other side of the aisle flailing their arms around and squealing in high decibels much like Barney Fife on the Andy Griffith Show, I now know why people are disenfranchised, why they decide they do not want to go to the polls. They are sick and tired of these people back in Washington, D.C. acting like a bunch of juveniles. For the last 4 years since I have been in Congress, I think of all of the things that the Democrats have said about the Republicans. Number one, that the Republicans want to starve the children. Remember back with the school lunch program, that we just want to decimate all the programs for the kids because we do not love kids. We must be child haters. That we wanted to pollute the environment. Somehow that we who are Republicans have some different kind of biological system that is impervious to the pollutants and carcinogens in the atmosphere and in the water, that we somehow would like to pollute the water, that we get glee out of making people suffer, that we want people who are being covered by health care to die, to be sick, to be thrown out of the hospitals, that we do not want to educate the children. If you believe all of these things that the Democrats are saying, then you must believe that we are the worst kind of human beings, somewhat a combination of Jeffrey Dahmer and Charles Manson. You guys need to give it a rest. You get on the verge of being ridiculous. Nobody believes that there are people like that in this country that want to come back to Washington, D.C. and cause mayhem on the Amer-

ican public. It just sounds silly and you need to stop it. I came here as an American first, not as a Republican, as an American, to come here and get the job of the people done. I have four kids in the public schools. I am proud of the job that my public schools do for my children. But I juxtapose that with what I see the results of the American education system producing. Forty percent of our children are dropping out of school across America. Then I look at the TIMS report, and I see that we end up 20th in the math and sciences, scoring 20th, and we are beaten by war-torn Slovenia. Why is that? If you believe what the Democrats are saying, they want to just go ahead and give you more of what we have been getting. Keep dumping money into this bureaucracy back in Washington, D.C. Keep giving you more of what you are getting. Forty percent dropout rate, 20th on the international test scores in math and sciences. Enough is enough. What we are doing is not working. Let us give parents a little bit more say. Let us give the local school boards and the local teachers a little bit more say in how to handle the classrooms. I think it is a crime that teachers have to go to school worried for their lives. I think it is a crime that we have so tied their hands in the American political system that they cannot discipline children, that when children try to poison them or children try to hurt them, that they cannot really do anything for fear of lawsuit. We have a lot of work to do. I think it is a crime that a teacher can be a terrible teacher, can produce the most substandard of results and not be fired, that a teacher can be grossly incompetent and because of tenure, they are protected. I think there are a lot of things that are wrong with our system. I do agree, I think that we need to dedicate more resources when it comes to education. Again I am going to restate, I have four children in the public school system, two of them in high school, one in junior high and one in elementary school. I believe that we need to give our teachers more. But I want to give them 100 percent. I do not want to filter it through Washington, D.C. and send through a pittance of it back to the teachers and back to the classroom to help my children. We want to sit down at the table. We want to fix these problems. If the President were here in Washington, D.C. instead of off campaigning and raising money from special interest groups, if he were here, we could solve these problems. We would like to do that. Because there is so much at stake, so much more at stake than these elections that are going to happen in the next 3½ weeks. But you would think that Armageddon is about to happen, that we Republicans are back here like Simon Legree trying to figure out how to poison the water, how to fail the children, how to poison the senior citizens, kick them out of the hospitals, feed them dog food. Come on guys, you need to stop it,

grow up and let us go on and solve the problems of the American people.

#### CHANGE IN ORDER OF TAKING SPECIAL ORDER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take the time of the gentlewoman.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Washington?

There was no objection.

#### WHAT IS GOING ON IN CONGRESS?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. MCDERMOTT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, it is interesting to be here on a Sunday afternoon after watching the talking heads on television this morning. I listened to the distinguished gentleman from Oklahoma who cannot understand the gentleman from Connecticut's outrage at what has happened in the medical system. I am a physician and you are a physician. I have spent time on telephones calling Omaha, Nebraska trying to get additional time for my patients in hospitals. I understand. It does take a persistent doctor. But it should not be necessary for you and I and all our colleagues in the medical profession to spend their time arguing with some bureaucrat who has never seen the patient making a decision about how long you can keep a patient in the hospital. I think the American people understand that. They understand that doctors have somebody between them and the patient. It is always an insurance company person. The failure of this Congress, even if you want to take your bill, your patient protection bill, you could not get it through the Senate. You guys did not come around here enough. The majority party cannot work with the majority party in the Senate to get something done. It is an absolute failure. There is an article here in the newspaper today. It is an analysis, it is on the editorial page of the New York Times. I will enter it in the RECORD. It is by Mr. Herbert. It is called the GOP Cover Story. He talks about the impeachment the other day. He says,

It was, frankly, chilling. To watch Newt Gingrich presiding over the possible impeachment of a Democratic President, even one as spectacularly vulnerable as Bill Clinton, is insane.

He said,

This is the same Newt Gingrich who several years ago told a group of young Republicans: "I think one of the great problems we have in the Republican Party is that we don't encourage you to be nasty. We encourage you to be neat, obedient, loyal, faithful